



# Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee

## Evaluation of Child Outcomes Meeting Minutes Summary

November 12, 2015

1:00 – 3:00pm

**Attendees:** Beth Stroh, Dana Jones, Megan Purcell, Loretta Hayslip (Guest), Monica DiOrio, Amanda Lopez; *On the Phone:* Kevin Bain, Aliah Carolan-Silva, Barbara Beaulieu, Brenda Ragle, and Mary Jane Eisenhauer

### Key Topics Discussed

#### New Members / Guests

- Introduction of new member: Mary Jane Eisenhauer, Associate Professor of Early Childhood Program Coordinator, Purdue University North Central.
- Introduction of guest: Loretta Hayslip, doctorate student in early childhood education at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (living in West Lafayette).

#### ELAC Updates

- New and reappointed Committee members: Kevin Bain, Melanie Brizzi, Charlie Geier, Robin Atkins, Christopher Stokes, Cindy Frey, and Connie Sherman;
- Save the Date for the Annual Kickoff Meeting on January 14th with all ELAC workgroups;
- ELAC Annual Report will be sent out in December, instead of June, to better align with the legislative session beginning in January.

#### Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Practices Survey

- Aliah reviewed the initial draft of a one-page summary of the survey results (uploaded to Wiggio);
- Workgroup members made suggestions for edits that will be made and reviewed at the December meeting.

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- Workgroup discussed a possible recommendation (for the future) to have a statewide kindergarten assessment tool(s) to measure kindergarten readiness. As work is being done toward establishing what assessment tools are being used across the state, it is clear that we are unable to understand critical child outcome data without a consistent tool.

## Head Start Outcomes Summary

- Majority of Head Starts that responded indicated using Teaching Strategies Gold as their formative assessment for the pre-school year;
- The next step is to work with the Indiana Head Start Association (Cheryl Miller) to get board approval to collect and share aggregate data from Teaching Strategies about Indiana Head Start programs;
- Megan noted that Michael Conn-Powers at IU is working to cross-reference the list of Head Start program to see if ISTAR-KR data is available;
- Discussed the possibility of making recommendations to improve data collection from Head Start programs, such as Head Starts using STN numbers to track the children; the development of a process/protocol to collect and maintain student identifier information (STN #'s); ensuring that teachers have access to new or updated resources, particularly around professional development.

## Early Education Matching Grant (EEMG) Evaluation Summary

- Last month, workgroup members were asked to start the process of scaling-down the results into the following sections: Child Outcomes, Family Engagement, Program Improvements, and Implications;
- Workgroup members reviewed the final EEMG evaluation report and made comments and suggestions primarily around the implications piece;
- Workgroup agreed that the biggest takeaway to note is that a high quality pre-school experience resulted in positive gains and overcoming gaps in delays for most of the children, which are at or below 100% of the poverty line.
- Discussed the timed observation protocol that IU used to observe teacher instruction and possible changes to make.

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## Key Questions Raised

1. Could the one-page summary of the Statewide Kindergarten Readiness Assessment Practices survey be an opportunity to tie-in the definitions of school-readiness found in the ELAC-approved Definition of Kindergarten Readiness?
2. Is there a timeline for the Indiana Head Start Impact Summary to be released?
3. Does the EEMG analysis suggest that there is an opportunity to be more engaged even when the teacher is not directly instructing?

## Action Steps

1. Kindergarten Assessment Survey Headlines and Implications one-page summary: **Aliah** offered to upload the revised summary to Wiggio; **Megan and Aliah** will contact Erin Kissling and Charlie Geier from IDOE to review and share feedback.
2. Head Start Outcomes Summary: **Megan** will follow-up with Cheryl Miller about getting board approval for the Teaching Strategies data;
3. EEMG Results Summary: **Megan** will ask Michael Conn-Powers for clarification on the timed observation protocol used; Workgroup could make recommendations for improvement; this summary will be included in the ELAC Annual Report in December.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, December 10, 2015

**Location:** United Way of Central Indiana (Conference Room TBD), 3901 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208

**Conference Call #:** 1-888-537-7715 **Code:** 18572938 #

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